

REMARKS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 1-31 are pending.

Claims 1-31 have been subject to a requirement for restriction.

By way of this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-10, 22-24 and 26 have been amended, claims 4, 11-21, 25, 30 and 31 have been canceled, and new claims, 32-49 have been added.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-3, 5-10, 22-24, 26-29 and 32-49 will be pending.

Summary of the Amendment

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 4, which has been canceled as redundant in view of the amendment of claim 1.

Claims 2-3 have been amended to more clearly define the embodiments claimed therein.

Claim 5 has been amended to correct its dependency in view of the amendment of claim 1 and cancellation of claim 4. In addition, claim 5 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiments claimed therein.

Claims 6-7 have been amended to be dependent on claim 1.

Claim 8 has been amended to be presented as an independent claim. Claim 8, as amended, specifically recites the limitations previously included by way of its dependency. As amended claim 8 has the same scope as previously presented.

Claims 9-10 have been amended to correct obvious errors.

Claims 11-21, 30 and 31 have been canceled as being directed to nonelected inventions.

Claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 25, which has been canceled as redundant in view of the amendment of claim 22.

Claims 23 and 24 have been amended to more clearly define the embodiments claimed therein.

Claim 26 has been amended to correct its dependency in view of the amendment of claim 22 and cancellation of claim 25. In addition, claim 26 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiments claimed therein.

New claims 32-37 are vaccine claims dependent on claim 8 and refer to limitations that correspond to claims 2-7.

New claims 38-43 are method claims dependent on claim 9 and refer to limitations that correspond to claims 2-7.

New claims 44-49 are method claims dependent on claim 10 and refer to limitations that correspond to claims 2-7.

Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Restriction Requirement

In the Official Action, the claims have been made subject of a restriction requirement. Five independent and distinct inventions have been identified: Group I, claims 1-8 and 22-29; Group II, claims 9-10; Group III, claims 11-19; Group IV, claims 20 and 21; and Group V, claims 30-31.

Applicants have canceled claims 11-21, 30 and 31, which correspond to Groups III, IV and V, in their entirety.

The remaining claims correspond to the subject matter of Groups I and II. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 22-24 and 26-29 together with new claims 32-37 are directed to the subject matter of Group I. Claims 9 and 10, together with new claims 38-49 directed to the subject matter of Group II.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I with traverse. This election is made with traverse with respect to Group II only. Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement between Groups I and II be reconsidered and withdrawn. Search and examination of the subject matter of both Groups I and II would not be a burden to the Patent Office.

If the requirement for restriction between Groups I and II is maintained, Applicants respectfully request that Group I, claims 1-3, 5-8, 22-24 and 26-29 and new claims 32-37 be examined, and that Group II, claims 9 and 10 and new claims 38-49 be withdrawn from consideration.

Conclusion

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 22-24, 26-29 and 32-49 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-3, 5-10, 22-24, 26-29 and 32-49 be allowed at this time.

As indicated on the transmittal accompanying this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any debit or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0436.

Respectfully submitted,

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